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JORDAN TIMES

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Moroccan envoy delivers message AMMAN (JNA). - The Director of the Moroccan Royal Court Ahmad Ibn Souda arrived here from Damascus Thursday evening and handed a written message to His Majesty King Hussein from Morocco's King Hassan II.

Peres suggests early warning system along Jordan River

AMMAN, April 14 (R). - Defence Minister Shimon Peres has called for the setting up of a military warning system along the Jordan River. "Instead of drawing maps of agreed borders I believe it's more conceivable to build a joint warning system along the Jordan," he added.

Peres tipped to become acting prime minister

JERUSALEM, April 14 (R). - Defence Minister Shimon Peres is expected to become acting prime minister after the resignation of Yitzhak Rabin. Peres' political career has been wrecked by a bribery scandal, government officials said here today.

Egyptian ambassador U.S. says: No place for "hawks" in M.E.

WASHINGTON, April 14 (R). - Mr. Ghorbal, Egypt's Ambassador to the United States, said there was no place for "hawks" in the Middle East. "The East cannot afford to have hawks in the Middle East," he said.

Moroccan troops braced in defensive positions in Zaire

AMMAN, April 14 (AFP). - 1,000 Moroccan troops today braced in defensive positions around the vulnerable Zairese copper town of Kolwezi as the deployment of Moroccan troops drew to a close. "Moroccan troops are braced in defensive positions around Kolwezi," a Moroccan official said.



His Majesty King Hussein confers with Imam Moussa Sadr at the Hashimiyeh Palace Thursday. (JNA photo).

Imam Sadr meets with King Hussein

AMMAN (Agencies). - Imam Moussa Sadr, spiritual leader of Lebanon's Shi'ite Muslims, held talks with His Majesty King Hussein Thursday on the general situation in his country, and in south Lebanon in particular.

Sadat asks Arafat to mediate with Soviet Union

BEIRUT, April 14 (AFP). - President Anwar Sadat of Egypt has asked Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat to try to improve relations between Egypt and the Soviet Union, reliable sources said here today.

Mubarak visits Damascus, due in Amman today

DAMASCUS, April 14 (R). - Egyptian Vice President Hosni Mubarak arrived here today at the start of a tour of 12 Arab countries to brief them on President Anwar Sadat's recent talks in the United States, West Germany and France.

Demonstrations banned for 2 days in Spain

MADRID, April 14 (R). - The Spanish government banned demonstrations and political rallies today to forestall trouble on the 46th anniversary of the republic which Gen. Franco defeated in the 1936-39 civil war.

Amman, Peking establish diplomatic relations

AMMAN (Agencies). - Jordan announced Thursday it was breaking off diplomatic relations with Taiwan and opening an embassy in Peking. A joint communique to this effect was issued here and in Peking.

Saudi Arabia believes U.S. could bring just Middle East settlement

BEIRUT, April 14 (R). - Saudi Arabian Crown Prince and Deputy Premier Fahd bin Abdul Aziz, in an interview published here today, said he believed the U.S. could bring about a just Middle East settlement.

South Lebanon relatively calm Gemayel, Assad talks in Damascus are "fruitful"

DAMASCUS, April 14 (R). - Mr. Pierre Gemayel, leader of Lebanon's rightwing Phalangist Party, had talks with President Hafez Assad here tonight on the situation in Lebanon, especially in the south, and means of forestalling the schemes of Israel, official sources said here.

Soviets reaffirm SALT rejection

MOSCOW, April 14 (R). - The Soviet Union today reaffirmed its rejection of Carter administration proposals for limiting nuclear arms and called instead for an arms pact based on guidelines agreed with former President Ford.

of China," the communique said. "The two governments have agreed to develop friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries on the basis of the principles of mutual respect for state sovereignty and territorial integrity..."

what would happen to Jordan's trade with Taiwan, which totalled nearly \$11 million in 1976, the last year for which figures are available.

Al Dustour, which broke the story Wednesday under a Washington dateline, said the decision was the result of prolonged secret contacts between Ambassador Salah and an official of the Chinese relations office.

Badran returns from one-day Saudi visit

AMMAN (R). - Prime Minister Mudar Badran returned here Thursday evening after delivering a message from His Majesty King Hussein to Crown Prince Fahd of Saudi Arabia.

U.S. ready to act as co-sponsor of fresh talks on Rhodesia

WASHINGTON, April 14 (R). - The United States said today it was willing to act as co-sponsor of fresh Geneva talks on Rhodesia if asked to do so by Britain.

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# JORDAN TIMES

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

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## Mr Carter's bravery

For those who like to follow the process by which politicians' untempered campaign statements eventually are moulded by the forces of the real world, a fine drama is taking place these days in the United States Congress over legislation to fight the Arab boycott of Israel. During the U.S. presidential campaign, being against the Arab boycott was synonymous with loving one's mother and helping blind people cross the street. But now that President Carter is in office, and has to deal with the boycott issue as it really is instead of as his campaign requirements forced him to view it, we have a new line of thinking coming from the administration. The two relevant committees in the House and the Senate last week both approved their own versions of anti-boycott legislation, and the full Congress will now hammer out a compromise bill that should be voted on later this month. The Carter administration has been supporting two significant loopholes in the draft legislation, which would, in effect, allow the boycott to function in practice but would also put on the record American legislation that prohibits compliance with the boycott. The loopholes involve business by American companies' subsidiaries abroad and particularly in Arab countries, as well as the principle known as "unilateral selection", which means that if an Arab country buys a truck from the U.S., the Arabs can specify what kinds of tyres or radios they wish to have supplied with the truck. In effect, this legislation is a classic compromise, for it allows the Arabs to maintain their economic boycott, but it also seems to satisfy American opposition to the boycott, which is largely Zionist opposition. In fact, there have been complaints this week, particularly from Senator Proxmire of Wisconsin, that the legislation as it stands has too many loopholes to be really effective.

He is correct, of course. The Arab boycott of Israel is a legitimate tool of economic warfare, and the Carter administration realises this as well as anyone else. The wild campaign oratory of Mr. Carter and his enthusiastic sidekick Mr. Mondale has given way to the realities of the boycott and long-term American interests in the Middle East. Thus the Carter administration favours the compromise that has been drawn up, and the Zionist lobby does not. If Mr. Proxmire continues objecting to the legislation and presses for stronger laws, the Carter administration will be caught between protecting American interests or Zionist interests.

We're pleased that Mr. Carter has chosen to see his role in this case as being the guardian of American national interests, and not, as it was during the campaign, as the parrot of Israeli selfishness. It's nice to see the president of the United States being the president of the United States, and not the marionette of Israel. Mr. Carter is a very brave man to flush his campaign statements down the toilet.

## ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Three Jordanian dailies commented in their Thursday editorials on the speech His Majesty King Hussein delivered to district governors and municipal council members Wednesday, in which he called for the formulation of a new form of participation between the government and the governor, to promote Jordan from a country of services to one of production.

Our Jordanian society should search for a new formula of participation between governors and governed and enable the country to benefit from all its citizens' potentials and capabilities. With the Jordanian economy based largely on agriculture, and with the village as the nucleus, authorities should plan for a comprehensive development of the country taking these things into consideration.

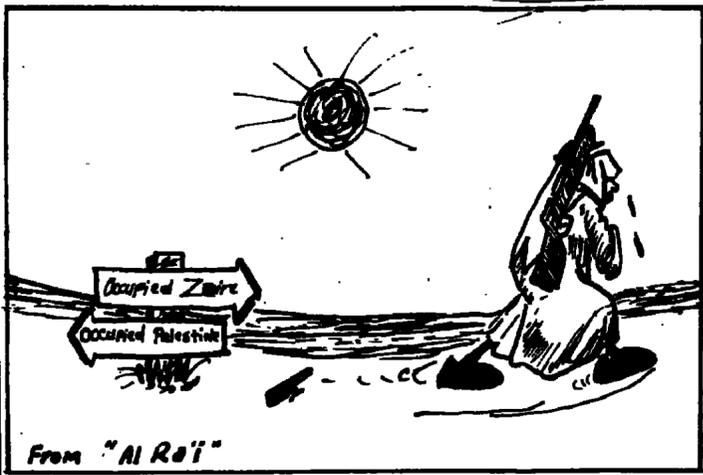
AL DUSTOUR, said that His Majesty has depicted the future Jordanian society which should be based on production and democracy. To achieve it, development should start at the level of the village with the human element as the essential factor. His Majesty, the paper said, has called for positive participation between governors and governed to search for formulas for the new society. He did not wish to impose a formula from above.

The report, presented on the first anniversary of the military coup that overthrew the corrupt and incompetent Argentine government of Mrs. Maria Estela Peron, listed 489 people who have disappeared without trace since the March 24, 1976, coup, and estimated that the number could rise to 5,000. It said that there are between 5,000 and 6,000 political prisoners in Argentina.

AL SHAB, discussing the same subject said that Jordan which has succeeded in providing social services to the Jordanian citizen and has been an example in the field of development, should now prove its capability to produce. Social development cannot be granted from the outside or from above. It is the result of continuous work by the citizen and serious participation between him and the governor.

As citizens, we have become accustomed to just requesting more services from the government and burdening it with added expenses while offering nothing in return. This is a pattern found in other third world countries. The time has come for us as citizens to contribute to the development of our country. The government should use the potentials and capabilities of all its citizens for that purpose.

To transform Jordan into a country of production, the paper added, mutual trust between the citizen and the governor should be deepened; and the sense of responsibility and participation developed.



## The Kremlin tries to pick up influence in Turkey and black Africa

MOSCOW, Russia (CSM) — In a busy few days for Soviet diplomats, the Kremlin has just made new efforts to pick up influence in two strategic areas of the world. The first is on the south-eastern flank of NATO. The Soviets used the visit to Moscow of Turkish Foreign Minister Ihsan Sabri Caglayan to put new stress on their desire to improve ties with Turkey, a NATO member whose ties with Washington deteriorated after it invaded Cyprus in 1974. The second is in Black Africa states. By giving vast publicity to the formal ratification here of the Soviet treaty with Angola, Moscow is seen to be signalling both black Africans and the Carter administration that it intends to keep on supporting black African liberation movements. Such support is provided for in the Soviet definition of détente. Western analysts point out. Soviet publications also are paying more attention now to Mozambique and Tanzania, which U.S.S.R. Chief of State Nikolai Podgorny will be visiting soon.

Western analysts here point out that Turkey's ties with Washington have improved somewhat in recent months. Special presidential envoy Clark Clifford was in the Turkish capital recently. Yet the Turks are watching closely to see what President Carter intends to do with the U.S.-Turkish defense pact negotiated by the Ford administration. It was said to involve a \$1-billion aid package in return for the reopening of key U.S. defense and listening posts on the Soviet border. Turkey's current ties with the Soviets are judged by Western analysts here to be more correct than cool. The tone of the foreign minister's comments was seen to be careful and restrained.

## Report reveals security links between Latin American military governments

The report of an Amnesty International mission to Argentina has just been published in London. It found that security forces were responsible for many abductions and that torture was practised on a wide scale. A Uruguayan who was arrested in Argentina was beaten and given electric shock treatment. His evidence proves that there is a security link between Latin American military governments for the repression of political enemies.

LONDON, (Gemini) — The strongest evidence yet of the long-suspected security link between Latin American military governments for the repression of political enemies has just been given in London by one of the victims. Enrique Rodriguez Larreta, 55, a former Uruguayan journalist, small-time businessman and middle-rank politician, told a press conference how he was abducted in Buenos Aires by Argentine army officers, on July 17, 1976. He was beaten and given electric shock treatment, saw women raped and men tortured to death. Then he was transferred to Montevideo by Uruguayan officers on July 26, finally to be freed, because there was nothing against him, in December last year. Originally Larreta had gone to Argentina from his home across the River Plate, in Uruguay, to search for his son, a Uruguayan political activist who had sought refuge in Buenos Aires and had been abducted by Argentine forces, along with several others. "Father and son were returned to Uruguay together — the son to jail. Rodriguez Larreta was responsible for one of the principal testimonies presented by Amnesty International to support its 92-page "Report of an Amnesty International Mission to Argentina, 6-15 November 1976."

The report, presented on the first anniversary of the military coup that overthrew the corrupt and incompetent Argentine government of Mrs. Maria Estela Peron, listed 489 people who have disappeared without trace since the March 24, 1976, coup, and estimated that the number could rise to 5,000. It said that there are between 5,000 and 6,000 political prisoners in Argentina. The mission, led by British Liberal peer, Lord Avebury, included Father Drinan, a United States congressman and Jesuit priest, and an Amnesty International official, Miss Patricia Feeney. They reported that security forces were responsible for many abductions. Torture was practised widely and refugees suffer a difficult situation in Argentina. Rodriguez Larreta's testimony provided horrifying evidence of this: "Some people detained with me were taken immediately to the upper floor, for interrogation. From the heart-rending screams that could be heard constantly, I gathered that they were being savagely tortured. This was confirmed when I heard them bringing them down again to the place where I was being kept, on the lower floor. The guards dragged them down, moaning, and flung them on the cement floor."

The English translation of Larreta's testimony also said: "The great majority of the kidnappers and all of our guards were Argentine. The guards seemed to belong to the army. Personnel of the Uruguayan army participated directly in the interrogation and torture." (There is a slight difference in the Spanish accents on both sides of the River Plate, which makes such detection possible.) "Meanwhile, Carlos Santucho (brother of an Argentine guerrilla leader) was put in and out of a tank full of water with insults and hoots of laughter, and beaten furiously each time he emerged. He suffered this treatment for a long time — much to our surprise, as the guards themselves had never heard to say that he had never been politically active. Then they apparently noticed that the body no longer showed any signs of life. "They did not interrogate me personally, but every night we could hear horrifying screams, in spite of the radio being turned up to full volume."

The Argentine government has always denied the existence of outside intervention, at most as if it were an embarrassment. But Latin-American security groups have operated in Argentina since the time immediately following the September 1973 military coup in Chile against Socialist-Populist President Salvador Allende Gossens. Argentina received in influx of left-wing refugees and agents from Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay, all ruled by military regimes, went to work. Argentina hushed up its anti-guerrilla action, to avoid a repressive image abroad, a thing which has brought international condemnation and the curtailment of foreign credit. Argentina also reportedly made an agreement with Latin American army commanders during October 1975, at a meeting in Uruguay, where the military took over in June 1973, which was kept top secret. The agreement accepted joint action against left-wing organisations. This pact was always denied by Argentina, even by the president, Lt. General Jorge Rafael Videla, when questioned about its existence recently. As could be expected, the Argentine government also refuted the report by Amnesty International, which it said was not objective and based only on hearsay evidence. Argentina has long argued that the world does not understand the nature of anti-guerrilla warfare.

Martin Ennals, secretary general of Amnesty International, rejected these allegations with the presentation of testimony by former prisoners. But Ennals' concern was not so much aimed at the expected denial, but at the statement in the official reply to the report, that Argentina reserved the right to act in "strict proportion" to the attack against the government. This, Ennals said, amounted to official abandonment of the responsibility for law and order.

## President Bongo of Gabon is to take over as OAU chairman

With Africa constantly in the world headlines these days, there is a special interest in the man who will take over as Chairman of the Organisation of African Unity in June.

LAGOS, (WFS) — In June, President Omar Bongo of Gabon will take over from Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam of Mauritius as Chairman of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU).

The transfer of chairmanship of the OAU from one state to another is often an occasion for scrutiny of the recipient head of state and country. For example, when, in 1975, it was the turn of President Idi Amin Dada to hold the post, many African states protested. Only 18 out of 46 heads of states eventually attended the Kampala summit while Tanzania, Zambia, and Botswana boycotted the

conference altogether. Similarly, last year, Sir Seewoosagur's chairmanship provoked controversy on two grounds. First, that the Queen of England was still Mauritius' head of state, and, secondly, that the island was a haven for South African tourists and that a summit there offered Pretoria the opportunity to filter spies into the organisation's deliberations.

President Bongo of Gabon has also not been without criticism over the past four years, mainly for allowing Gabon to drift into strong commercial ties with South Africa. Although many African states are in one form or another economically inevitably linked with South Africa, Gabon's open trade ties with the apartheid regime have been a bitter disappointment to many Africans, especially as Gabon stands out clearly as an economic force to be reckoned with in African struggles against white minorities in southern Africa.

Most African political observers have argued that Gabon was the only country in Africa which could have brought pressure to bear on France over her decision recently to sell two nuclear power plants to South Africa. Gabon is known to be France's principal supplier of uranium (in fact 75 per cent of France's needs) and a threat that she would cut the supply, it was argued, could have forced France to reconsider the sale and possible further arms deal with Pretoria. It was admitted, though, that such a move would have had serious repercussions on Gabon's economy.

However, unlike Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam's response to criticism, such as the temporary ban on South African tourists, who contribute largely to the foreign exchange earnings of Mauritius, President Bongo is unlikely to take actions that could alter Gabon's relations with South Africa before the OAU conference in Libreville, from July 2-5.

The price for such actions could be damaged relations with France — a relationship many African observers believe could be beneficial during President Bongo's term as chairman of the OAU. It seems unlikely that an African state will make much of an issue of it.

Certainly, the Gabonese head of state has recognised that to be Africa's spokesman for one year entails certain conditions. And over the past six months Gabon has been preparing to take the lead. Gabon's decision last September to pull out of OCAM (Organisation Communautaire Africaine et Mauricienne), which, until recently, was a political association of Francophone African states, was in this direction. President Bongo has described the organisation as "anachronistic" and incompatible with the OAU. This tallies with Dr. Kwame Nkrumah's criticism of the organisation when it came into existence in 1965.

The Gabonese authorities also recognise that good neighbourliness is vital in the role which the country will be playing in African affairs in the coming months. Unlike Uganda, whose relations with neighbours have never been good and whose President, Idi Amin, during his term as OAU

chairman claimed Kenyan territories and provoked many African states, Gabon maintains good relations with his neighbours. In fact, late in December she re-opened borders with Cameroon after a brief closure following a shooting incident along the border on December 10.

Again, Gabon's reaction to allegations of complicity in the raid on Cotonou, Benin, on January 18 points to the fact that she does not wish to be drawn into hostility with any African country, at least for the time being. With Morocco, the other country accused of involvement, she suspended her membership of the OAU, the Gabonese Foreign Minister, Mr. Marth Bongo, has categorically denied his country's involvement, and has asked the UN investigation commission whose report implicates Gabon, to make further enquiries. There is, however, still the general feeling that the raid on Cotonou stopped over in Gabon to refuel. Whether or not this was with the knowledge of Gabonese authorities remains to be seen.

Conciliation, therefore, seems to be the sort of leadership that Africa can expect from Gabon when President Bongo takes over at the OAU. But meanwhile, observers say Gabon's relations with France during this period as potentially advantageous. French presidents have always had special relations with Gabon since he succeeded, Leon Mba in 1967. And, indeed, since coming to power in 1974, President Giscard d'Estaing has visited Gabon twice. Last month the Gabonese president paid a successful private visit to Paris where he held talks with the French President.

There is speculation that President Bongo will exploit this personal relationship during his term as OAU chairman, to find solutions to areas of conflict between France and Africa, including, for example, the return of Mayotte to the Comoros Islands, while President Senghor of Senegal another friend of France, recently publicly called upon France to do.

## Aid to Zaire proves European role in Africa

PARIS, April 14 (AFP) — France's aid to Zaire "proves the role of Europe in Africa," Zaire's President Mobutu Sese Seko has said in a TV interview a few days ago.

In the interview, recorded by the French state-owned TF1 channel in Kinshasa, President Mobutu said that President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing did not hesitate "one instant" in answering favourably to request from Zaire and Morocco for aid in repelling "rebels" in Shaba province (ex-Katanga). He said that Zaire requested the stationing of neutral observers in the towns of Dilolo and Luashi "the two principal routes into Zaire from Angola."

The observers would be required to report if there is any "coming and going" between the two countries. If it is established that there is no movement to support the "rebels" in Shaba, Zaire will have the proof that it is an internal affair," he said. Only at that moment will "we be able to remove all suspicion from Angola," he said.

# JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

JORDAN TELEVISION		AMMAN AIRPORT		VOICE OF AMERICA	
Channel 3 & 6	18:30 Big valley	Arrivals:	8:00 Beirut (EA)	6:00 The Breakfast Show	7:00 News
10:00 Quran	20:00 News in Arabic	8:20 Beirut	8:45 Beirut (MEA)	6:30 6:30, 6:50, and 18:30	7:30 News
10:10 Cartoons	Channel 3	11:15 Aleppo, Damascus	8:45 Cairo (EA)	6:30 GMT: News, Regional and Topical Reports, VOA Current News Summary (6:30, 6:45 and 6:50 GMT)	18:30 News
10:35 Encyclopedia Britanica	18:20 Religious programme	11:45 Amman (KAC)	10:00 Athens, Amsterdam, (ELM)	An informal presentation of popular music 20:00	20:00 News
10:55 Arabic series	19:20 Arabic series	16:20 Jeddah, Medina, Hael, Tref (SDI)	10:30 Cairo	20:00 News	20:15 News
11:25 Three stooges	21:20 Reportage	16:20 Jeddah, Medina, Hael, Tref (SDI)	12:30 Damascus (SAA)	20:15 News	20:30 News
11:45 Religious programme	Channel 6	17:00 Cairo	14:30 Agaba	20:30 News	20:45 News
12:30 Cultural film	19:30 News in Hebrew	17:00 Paris, Rome	14:30 Beirut (KAC)	20:45 News	20:55 News
12:45 Varieties	19:45 Varieties	17:00 Jeddah, Tref, Medina, (SDI)	18:15 Taef, Medina, Jeddah (SDI)	20:55 News	21:00 News
14:00 Soccer match	20:00 George and Mildred	18:00 Madras, Athens	18:20 Dubai, Karachi	21:00 News	21:15 News
14:30 Doc. Filoz	21:10 The Angels	18:30 Paris, Beirut (AF)	20:00 Kuwait	21:15 News	21:30 News
16:55 Arabic feature	22:00 News in English	19:40 Beirut (MEA)	20:30 Tehran	21:30 News	21:45 News
	22:15 Kojak	21:05 Frankfurt, Munich, Damascus (Lufthansa)	22:25 Yaba, Muscat	21:45 News	22:00 News
		21:35 London	01:15 Dubai (Alitalia)	22:00 News	22:15 News
		00:20 Rome (Alitalia)		22:15 News	22:30 News

RADIO JORDAN		BBC RADIO	
7:00 Breakfast show	14:30 Good vibrations	14:15 Letterbox	14:15 My Kind of Music
7:30 News	15:00 Concert hour	14:30 World News: 24 hours	14:30 Radio Newsweek
7:45 News reports	15:00 Old favourites	05:20 Sarah Ward	15:15 Outlook
8:00 Sign off	15:20 Easy listening	05:45 The World Today	16:00 News; Commentary
8:30 Listeners' choice	17:00 Pop session	06:00 News; Press Review	16:15 Science in Action
11:30 My kind of music	18:00 News summary	06:30 My Kind of Music	16:45 The World Today
11:45 Arab centres	18:05 Pop session	07:00 Sarah Ward	17:15 News
12:00 Pop session	18:15 Songs for you	07:45 Merchant Navy Programme	17:30 Music Now
13:45 News summary	18:45 Book review	17:30 Book Choice	17:30 Sports Round-up
13:55 Pop session	19:10 News	17:45 Sports Round-up	18:15 Radio Newsweek
14:00 News	19:10 Music	18:00 What's New?	18:20 On Today's News Summary
14:10 Radio magazine	19:30 Sign off	18:20 Jazz Club	18:30 Stock Market
		08:20 News: Reflections	19:45 Stripes up the Band
		08:25 Music for Wind Instruments	20:00 News: 24 hours
		08:30 Jazz Club	20:30 A Way of Love
		08:35 News: Press Review	21:00 World Radio Club
		08:45 The World Today	21:15 Sarah Ward Requests
		08:50 Financial News	21:45 Scotland 77
		09:45 Jane Eyre	22:00 News: The World Today
		10:15 Merchant Navy	22:05 Fiscal News
		11:00 News and Country	22:45 Sports Round-up
		11:15 Face of England	23:00 World News; Commentary
		11:30 Discovery	23:15 From the Weeklies
		12:00 Radio Newsweek	23:30 Take it or Leave it
		12:15 Composer and Interpreter	
		12:45 Sports Round-up	
		13:00 News; 24 hours	
		13:30 New Ideas	
		13:40 Update This Week	
		13:45 Don Moss Requests	

EMERGENCIES		USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS	
Doctors:	Is'af (30210)	Ambulance (government)	Tel. 78111
Amman:	College (25101)	Civil defence rescue	24291-4
Fuad Hassan Jaber (71234)		Fire and police	22889
Anwar Moussa Haj (75888)		First aid, fire, police	19
Is'af:		Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency)	36811-2
Telishat	Im Cina	Municipal water service (emergency)	37111-3
10:15		Police headquarters	36141
11:50		Najafah, serving patients, (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergency help	3111, 3777
Zampa:			
Hikma:			
Zampa:			
Nash'at Ammani (82680)			
Pharmacies:			
Amman:	Medical City (44281)		
Basman (23788)	Ullwayy (2101)		
Fataleah (37140)	Khayyam (41541)		
	Nahda (83003)		

هنا اصد انصح

# Court releases details of King Hussein's visit to U.S.

AMMAN (JNA) — An official at the Royal Court has announced that the delegation accompanying His Majesty Hussein during his official visit to the United States April 25 will include Chief of Royal Court Sharif Ab-Samad Sharaf, Minister of Amer Khammash, Commander-in-Chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces Lt-Gen. Sharif Zeid Ibn Shaiker, Minister of Information Adnan Abu Odeh, Jordan's Ambassador to the U.S. Abdallah Salah, President of the National Planning Council Hanna Odeh and a number of civilian and military officials.

The source added that His Majesty will start official talks with President Jimmy Carter on the first day of his visit and will then meet Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, who will hold a luncheon in honour of the King. President Carter will also hold a working dinner, during which the two leaders will resume their talks, which will be concluded on the second day.

King Hussein will be presented with an honorary doctorate for his efforts in developing Jordan and for his work aimed at achieving a just peace in the Middle East, the source continued.

During the visit, His Majesty will deliver a number of speeches at academic institutions, and will hold press conferences during which he will explain Jordan's concept of peace in the Middle East. His Majesty will also tour a number of states for the same purpose.

The official source concluded by saying that the King will attend a luncheon party held in his honour by Congress, when he will answer questions on the Middle East issue.

Minister of Transport Ali Al-Hat, presently accompanying Prince Hassan on a visit to the U.S., stated yesterday that he discussed with his Syrian counterpart a number of subjects related to the Joint Jordanian-Syrian Transport Command and that they agreed on a coordination in this regard.

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein has sent a cable to President Kim Il Sung, the President of the Korean Democratic Republic, congratulating him on the occasion of his birthday.

AMMAN — Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hassan Ibrahim visited the Bahraini, Soviet and French ambassadors here today.

AMMAN — The Secretary General of the Foreign Ministry, Khalil Al-Hamad, received the West German and South Korean ambassadors here Thursday.

AMMAN — The Directorate of Public Security has announced the road linking Ma'in hot springs and the Dead Sea is now available for small cars because of heavy rain.



Staff and students of the Syrian Military College are received at Jordan's military institute Thursday at the start of a two-day visit. (JNA photo).

## Housing experts visit development projects

AMMAN (JNA) — Delegations to the Arab Housing Seminar, which ended Wednesday, visited a number of development projects Thursday.

At Na'ur, 15 kms southwest of Amman, the delegations saw a factory which will produce ready-made doors. It is expected to begin work next month.

The factory, the biggest of its kind in the area, will produce 400 doors every eight hours. Its productive capacity may be raised to 1,000 doors daily.

The delegates also visited the Jordan Valley, where they were briefed on the projects which the Jordan Valley Commission is now carrying out. The Commission's Deputy Director, Dr. Mumter Haddadin, said the Jordan Valley projects aim to increase the area of irrigated land to 360,000 dunums by 1982. Water will come from King Talal Dam and the projected Maqarn Dam on the Yarmouk River, in addition to the smaller Ziqlab and Al Kufrein dams.

## UNESCO tourist expert due here

PARIS, April 14 (JNA) — Mr. Andre Yola, a UNESCO expert on cultural heritage, will arrive in Amman on April 17 at the invitation of the Ministries of Culture and Youth and Tourism and Antiquities.

Mr. Yola will tour cultural and historical sites to determine UNESCO's contribution to the maintenance of Jordan's archaeological sites.

The U.N. Development Council has already decided -- at the recommendation of UNESCO -- to allocate \$6 million to maintain Zeus Temple in the Roman city of Jarash.

## HOUSING BANK MAKES 1976 PROFIT OF JD 0.5 m

AMMAN (JNA) — The Housing Bank made a profit of JD 54,000 in 1976, according to Chairman Zuhair Khoury.

Reporting to the Board of Administration Thursday, he stated that the bank's assets jumped JD 19 million to reach JD 32 million in the same year.

He further explained that 3,111 loans -- totalling JD 34 million -- had been granted for the construction of 8,464 housing units in the country.

## ALIA APPLIES FOR PERMIT TO FLY TO NEW YORK

WASHINGTON, April 14 (R) — The airlines of Jordan and Syria have applied to the U.S. Civil Aeronautics Board (CAB) for permits to fly to the United States, the Jordan Information Bureau said here yesterday.

Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, and Syrian Arab Airlines (SAA) want to operate joint passenger and cargo services between New York City, Amman and Damascus using Boeing 747 jumbo jets.

They hope to begin services this summer on two round-trip flights a week. One would offer non-stop services between New York and Amman and the other between New York and Damascus.

## Egyptian trade team due here

AMMAN (JNA) — An Egyptian trade delegation headed by the Under Secretary at the Trade Ministry will arrive in Amman on April 28 for talks with Jordanian officials on the implementation of the trade protocol signed between Jordan and Egypt last February.

The protocol provides for enlarging the volume of trade exchange between the two countries to JD 8.5 million.

# Probe starts into new social security scheme

AMMAN (JNA) — A meeting was held at the Ministry of Interior Thursday to discuss the proposed social security law, which His Majesty King Hussein requested.

The meeting was attended by the ministers of labour, industry and commerce and finance, the acting minister of health, the president of the Union of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce, the presidents of the Bar, Medical, Pharmacists and Press Associations and the head of the General Union of Workers' Associations.

## Development information course opens

AMMAN (JNA) — Minister of Information Adnan Abu Odeh opens a study course on developmental information at the Information Training Centre Saturday.

The participants in this course will include a number of television directors and programmers at the Syrian Ministry of Information and a number of their Jordanian colleagues at the television and broadcasting stations and other information departments.

The programme includes a number of lectures on different subjects by ministers and officials. The participants will prepare and produce several radio and television programmes on developmental projects and achievements.

## Exchange Rates

Table with 3 columns: Currency, Rate, and another Rate. Includes U.K. sterling, U.S. dollar, German mark, French franc, Swiss franc, Italian lira, Saudi riyal, Lebanese pound, Syrian pound, Iraqi dinar, Kuwaiti dinar, Libyan dinar, Egyptian pound, UAE dirham.

## PEN PAL WANTED

Dear Sir, I am a 17-year-old male Pakistani student very interested in pen pals. I am writing you this letter because I would like to make pen friends in Jordan, which is an Islamic country like Pakistan. My hobbies are pen pals, stamp collecting and reading. Please write to me at this address: H.N.O. 1367-B, People Colony No. 1, Lyalpur, Pakistan. Mr. Zahid Sharif.

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## NATIONAL NOTES

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein has sent a cable to President Kim Il Sung, the President of the Korean Democratic Republic, congratulating him on the occasion of his birthday.

AMMAN — Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hassan Ibrahim visited the Bahraini, Soviet and French ambassadors here today.

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# AMMAN MARKET PLACE

Advertisement for Amman Market Place featuring various services: Furniture (JID), Restaurants (The Flying Carpet Club, Mandarin Chinese Restaurant, Babalu Restaurant, Le Cesar), Food-Markets (Silver Market, Barq Supermarket, Cash and Carry), Travel (Jordan Express Co., Avis), Business Supplies (Fordigraph, Naim S. El Far & Co.), Flower Shops (Bouquet), Sweets (Patchi), Misc. (Optikos Shami O.D.), and Agriculture (Tala Agriculture Co.).

# Bulgaria mingles its Balkan past with modern ideology

**SOFIA, Bulgaria (CSM).** — Bulgaria occupies an attractive corner of Europe where an ancient past and a modern present often mingle.

It calls itself a "socialist country" and is involved in an industrialisation process that has lifted it out of its backward, Balkan past.

Yet the Bulgarians preserve the past — even artifacts that predate ancestors who came from the Volga-Urals to this territory south of the Danube 14 centuries ago.

The Thracians founded what is now Bulgaria. The area was developed by the Romans, and archaeological reminders of both abound.

The present here hinges on Bulgaria's unequivocal alliance with the Soviet Union. This has furnished the technical wherewithal to bring the country into the 20th century — new industries, suburban housing, cars, television, and a usually well-stocked consumer market.

Politically, the country's rulers remain as severely "orthodox" as the Soviet Union's. But new winds are stirring. Younger economists stress the need for decentralised, flexible management.

More and more youths rebel at unnecessary curbs on travel and at official fussiness about Western culture. They are not unpatriotic. They simply desire wider horizons.



A housewife from Sofia greets a stranger.



Horsecars and automobiles share the cobblestone road.



Elements of traditional Bulgarian architecture have been treated in a contemporary manner.

## Nur Misuari emerges as head of southern Philippines provisional government

**MANILA, April 14, (AFP).** — Four years after mounting a revolt for Moslem autonomy, university teacher Nur Misuari is finally coming out of his Libyan exile to head a provisional government in southern Philippines.

Hunted down as a secessionist rebel, the youthful chairman of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) slipped out of the country sometime in 1973 to direct the rebellion first from neighboring Sabah, later from distant Tripoli.

Libya is the rebellion's chief support, supplying the insurgents with money and arms. It was also Libyan Leader Col. Moammar Qadhafi's friend Ferdinand Marcos who worked out a compromise peace formula for settling a conflict that has claimed some 20,000 lives by official count.

Briefly, the formula provides for the setting up of a provisional government in 13 southern provinces and, later, of a regular autonomous government through elections. The geographical composition and

powers of the new region are to be determined by a referendum scheduled for Sunday.

There was uncertainty as to whether the MNLF would accept the formula or not until Mr. Misuari finally sent word from Jeddah this week that he was participating in the provisional government whose chairmanship had been offered to him by Mr. Marcos.

As provisional leader, Mr. Misuari is also expected to play a key role in the future autonomous government.

Revolutions and exile breed legends but who is Nur Misuari? Bits of information about him give a picture of a man of many faces, an elusive figure, a blurred form seen as it were through the haze of the Libyan desert.

Age 37 or 38, he was formerly a political science instructor at the University of the Philippines, a hot-bed of student activism before Mr. Marcos declared martial law in September 1972.

It was apparently after proclamation of martial law that

Mr. Misuari and his so-called "Young Turks" went underground.

To the young Moslems who followed his trail, he was perhaps some kind of a voice preaching the liberation of three million Moslems from social and economic domination by their more affluent, numerically superior Christian compatriots from the north.

Navy Commodore Gil Fernandez, one-time chief of the southern military command, described Mr. Misuari as a "good forceful talker" who supposedly used ideological and religious issues to attract people, even outlaws, to the MNLF ranks.

"Misuari exploited them by saying that the arrival of troops in the south was the beginning of a plan to Christianise Moslems," the commodore once told newsmen.

To the military, Mr. Misuari was more than a separatist rebel: He was also supposedly allied with Communist Party Chairman Jose Maria Sison. Military dossiers in fact once put him down as a top man in the communist hierarchy.

To one Moslem government

employee in his hometown Mr. Misuari was a man who wanted to rule "to overcome his inferiority complex."

To residents of Manila, where the MNLF rebellion is a vague and distant war, he is only a photograph in the newspapers: A face dominated by a thick moustache and coal-black eyes.

Mr. Misuari's birth place is said to be the small Moslem island of Jolo in the deep south whose inhabitants are called Tausog, an ethnic group known for their skills as warriors.

But his reputation was not to be that of a guerrilla fighter. His claim to MNLF leadership, authorities say, rests on his being its "brains".

In the university, he is said to be a quiet figure although, reports say, he once led a demonstration in front of Mr. Marcos' presidential palace to protest the mysterious killings of Moslem recruits in a secret army training camp outside Manila in 1968.

Later he was to join the so-called "Mindanao Independence Movement" (MIM) but was disillusioned by its leadership and broke away from it.

In 1971 he ran for a seat in the constitutional convention that was to frame a new Philippine constitution: His plan was to work for a constitutional provision that would establish a federal Moslem government in Mindanao.

His hopes were dashed when he lost his election bid, reportedly for lack of funds. Two years later he was in the hills, with a price of 50,000 pesos (7,000 U.S. dollars) on his head.

In a press interview five years before, the young Misuari told a journalist that the Moslem struggle "is matter of necessity, not prompted by idealism."

## Better designs revive airships as cargo carriers

The airship is coming into its own again — as a cargo carrier. But the modern dirigible is much safer than the passenger-carrying vessels of the earlier years of the century. Unlike the Hindenberg and the R100 and R101 of the thirties, which used inflammable hydrogen as a lifting gas, today's airships use the non-inflammable helium.

**LONDON, (Gemini).** — Overcrowded shipping lanes, delays and inefficient port handling together with a growing need to transport heavy machinery to industrial sites, have led to a renewed interest by many nations in airships as cargo carriers.

Experts are convinced that giant airships capable of carrying 1,000 tons of cargo will be commonplace by the end of the century.

A British company, Aerospace Developments, for instance, is at this time, completing a contract to build 22 helium-filled airships for use in South America, mainly in Venezuela and Peru. The vehicles, powered by turboprop engines,

can fly at 240 kph and can cover in 24 hours a distance which would take a cargo ship 20 days. The cost, the British makers claim, works out at U.S. \$150 per km.

The United States, which has for decades patrolled coastal waters by airships flown by the U.S. coastguard, is building dirigibles for freight carrying and observation duties.

The Goodyear Tyre Company is working on two enormous dirigibles, one 550 metres in length, the other around 300 metres. The larger ship will be powered by no less than 16 turboprops while the other will be manoeuvred by ten Sikorsky CH-53E helicopters, five on either side of the structure.

The ships have been designed to cross the U.S. in 24 hours carrying heavy cargoes, nuclear reactors and building equipment. They are expected to be invaluable when used on major engineering works like dam building.

Perhaps the most promising development of all is being carried out in Britain, where John West, who designed the revolutionary hull of the P & O liner Canberra, is at work on a veritable "flying saucer" to be called "Sky Ship".

The Sky Ship, happily nicknamed "Sky Chip" by journalists who saw a model demonstrated at the Royal Aeronautical Establishment will be driven by 10 Rolls Royce Tyne turbojets mounted around its "rim". Sky Ship is planned for emergency military use and is being designed to carry troops and fighting vehicles.

Sky Ship enthusiasts claim that this actual flying saucer could carry passengers across the North Atlantic for U.S. \$35 — a cost of less than 2 cents per ton mile. Another proposal for future Sky Ships is to fit them up as super luxury flying hotels.

There have been spectacular mishaps with lighter than air

vehicles in the past which have given them what some critics call a "disaster image". They say, was due to misplacement of hydrogen gas instead of more expensive helium which is stable and does not explode.

The disasters of the unfortunate British R-101 and that the German Hindenburg in the thirties set back developments for decades.

The Hindenburg was destroyed by fire when it hit the hillsides of Lakehurst, New Jersey, U.S. in 1937. The Hindenburg crash in flames near its mooring, killing 35 passengers and crew.

The world's first lighter-than-air machine was a balloon buoyant by hot air rising from a fire slung underneath. The balloon was constructed by two brothers Stephen and Joseph Montgolfier of Paris. It flew the first time on November 1783 and carried two men safely for two miles.

The Montgolfier hot air balloon was soon followed by balloons filled with hydrogen. This first flew on December 1783 but it was soon realised that such balloons were at the mercy of the winds and they needed to be self-propelled and of a shape which would present a minimum of resistance to the wind.

The first airship shaped much like the giant lighter-than-air craft seen in World War I was designed by Frenchman Henri Giffard. It was driven by steam engine and made its first flight on September 1852. The true forerunner of the modern airship, however, was the vehicle designed by Santos Dumont, a young Brazilian, which was driven by petrol motor.

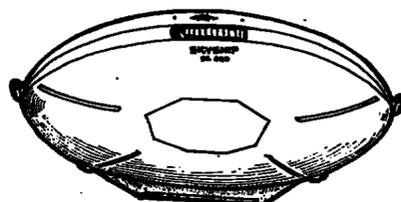
During World War I a German zeppelin (so named after its designer, Count Ferdinand von Zeppelin) made a remarkable 5,500 mile non-stop flight from Bulgaria — via the Bosphorus and the Red Sea — to avoid British and French fighter planes — to Central Africa.

It carried 15 tons of food for beleaguered German forces in Tanganyika (Tanzania). Pilots of conventional aircraft tend to look askance at the lumbering monsters of the air. With justification they say an airship is stable when they are or tall, to wind, but at an angle the problem of drift becomes formidable. Modern designs, however, by using power engines have made the dirigibles more manoeuvrable.

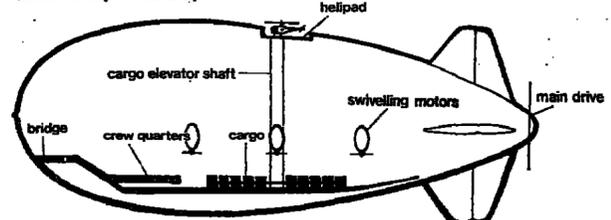
So far as development of larger airships is concerned, number of shipping companies have set up subsidiaries to study the feasibility of "jumbo" airships and, ultimately to operate them.

One such company, Manchester Liners, has established "Cargo Airships" under direction of Max Rymish. Rymish believes totally in the use of airships as cargo carriers. He points out that air-craft currently carry less than half one per cent of the world's freight. Operational versatility in particular the ability to provide a "door to door" service he believes to be one of the advantages of the airship of the future.

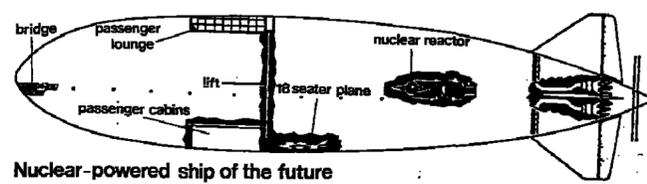
### SPACE-AGE AIRSHIPS



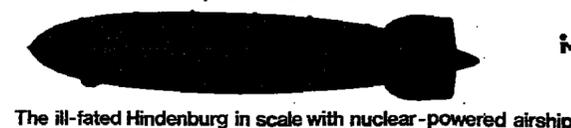
"Flying saucer" Skyship hovers and manoeuvres more easily than usual shaped airships



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The ill-fated Hindenburg in scale with nuclear-powered airship

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هجره اصبه القديس



# Mystery still shrouds kidnap of Fiat chief executive in Paris

PARIS, April 14 (AFP). — Fears mounted here today for Italian-born Luciano Revelli-Beaumont, the chief executive of Fiat auto operations in France, kidnapped yesterday.

Police were discounting the theory that the seizure was carried out by a committee for the defence of Italian workers in France, as claimed by an anonymous caller to a French radio station last night.

Mr. Revelli-Beaumont, 58, father of two, was whisked away from outside his ultra-modern flat in the fashionable 16th district of Paris last evening and has not been heard from since.

The anonymous caller to the radio station demanded that

three million francs (\$600,000), plus food and medicine, be made available to unemployed Italian here, but detectives today said the call was a hoax.

They said that further instructions for obtaining the businessman's release had not been forthcoming as promised and that the tone of the telephone message was vague and unconvincing.

Police Inspector Robert Bouit, directing the probe, now appeared to be convinced that a ransom demand was the motive of the kidnapping, the second to hit a senior executive of the Italian motor giant posted abroad.

The other, Mr. Oberdan Sallustro, director of the firm's Argentinian subsidiary, was ki-

lled in 1972 as police attempted to obtain his release.

Mr. Revelli-Beaumont, Director General of Fiat-France since 1974, also took over responsibility for operations in Brazil at the beginning of this year.

In Turin, a spokesman for Fiat said it had received no ransom demand.

Asked if the company would be willing to pay one, the spokesman refused to comment, saying: "We are waiting to be sure of the motives."

He said Fiat President Giovanni Agnelli would not make a statement on the matter and had no plans to travel to Paris.

He said the company believed the kidnapers would wait several days before making any move.

# Libya demands release of diplomats allegedly arrested by Egyptians

TRIPOLI, April 14 (R). — Libya has demanded the immediate release of two government officials it says were illegally arrested by Egyptian authorities two days ago, the Arab Revolution News Agency of Libya (ARNA) reported today.

ARNA said Libya had protested over the arrest of Counselor Ahmad Huweise and Attache Abdul Hamid Al Namri of the Libyan Arab Relations Bureau (consulate) in Alexandria.

It said Egypt's "aggressive action" had no legal justification and contravened international laws.

The Libyan office in Alexandria was set on fire by Egyptian demonstrators last Sunday. The attack came only hours after the Egyptian government office in Benghazi was stormed and seized by Libyan workers and students.

Egyptian Interior Ministry sources have denied an allegation by the Libyan press attache in Cairo that 12 officials of the Alexandria bureau were arrested by police.

# Owen expresses hope for Rhodesian constitutional conference shortly

GABORONE, April 14 (R). — British Foreign Secretary David Owen said here today that he is hoping for a formal constitutional conference on Rhodesia within three months.

Dr. Owen, who yesterday had talks with Rhodesian Premier Ian Smith and South African Prime Minister John Vorster, flew to Botswana today for discussions with President Sir Seretse Khama on the Rhodesian issue.

At a brief airport news conference, Dr. Owen said: "The sort of timetable I am looking towards is starting formal meetings as part of the conference process perhaps mid-June or early July."

He said he hoped this con-

ference, to be convened by Britain and the United States, would then produce proposals in legislative form which could be presented to the British parliament in the session starting in November.

"I think we should take as our objective majority rule for an independent Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) in 1978. I think this can be achieved," Dr. Owen said.

He said that he had been encouraged by his talks with Presidents Julius Nyerere of Tanzania, Samora Machel of Mozambique and Mr. Spith and Mr. Vorster.

Asked if he was now more optimistic about a peaceful solution than at the beginning of his trip, he replied: "Yes, moderately more optimistic. But I have never been greatly optimistic about the tour."

He said his hopes for a conference within three months were a "tentative timescale."

"Much will depend on the transitional steps," he said.

If the constitutional conference came about and legislation emerged, Dr. Owen said he envisaged several steps being taken, such as allowing black nationalist leaders back into Rhodesia and a general election-taking place to bring about majority rule.

# U.K.'s Rhodesia initiative slammed

LONDON, April 14 (AFP). — "Moderate" Rhodesian nationalist leader Rev. Ndabaningi Sithole today described the latest British initiative to find a Rhodesian settlement a "waste of time" and "doomed to fail."

Rev. Sithole, who arrived here today, is the disputed leader of the Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) African National Union (ZANU). Rival nationalist Robert Mugabe now claims to head ZANU.

Rev. Sithole told a press conference at London's Heathrow Airport that "all the constitutional efforts taken towards majority rule -- and there are many -- have been rendered useless due to the likes and

dislikes of (Rhodesian Premier) Ian Smith."

He said the "new English-American venture will probably crash on the rocks."

He said all Rhodesian nationalist leaders were agreed on one fundamental point -- the need for free constitutional elections. He agreed there are divergencies on the "non-fundamental issues", adding "they are always arguments in ex British colonies."

Rev. Sithole is scheduled to stay in London until April 2 and plans to meet British Foreign Secretary David Owen, when he returns from his current Southern African shuttle and Prime Minister James Callaghan.

## ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS NEWS

### Carter may increase tax on gasoline

NEW YORK, April 14 (Agencies). — President Carter plans a gradual tax on gasoline and it could attain 50 cents a gallon, the New York Times reported today.

It based its report on a document dated April 9 summing up the president's ideas on the subject.

Mr. Carter, it said, favoured the end of gasoline price controls from next autumn onwards.

He also wanted to encourage energy saving by means of certain tax provisions to do with home insulation.

Householders and companies prepared to fit solar heat equip-

ment would also be financially helped.

Mr. Carter sought to end price controls on oil produced in the United States at costs as high as those of the members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), according to the New York Times.

Federal Budget Director Bert Lance said today he was recommending that President Carter withdraw his \$50 per person tax rebate plan.

In an interview broadcast in Washington this morning, Mr. Lance said he would make the proposal to Mr. Carter based on signs that economic recov-

ery is progressing well enough that the rebate might spark another round of inflation.

Administration sources expect Mr. Carter will go along with Mr. Lance's recommendation since the rebate proposal is having trouble finding support in the Senate, which is scheduled to vote on the measure, already approved in the House of Representatives, when Congress returns from recess later this week.

Also, the Los Angeles Times reported today that President Carter looks like virtually can-

celling the recovery program announced some weeks ago.

The programme could be cut from \$15,000 million to a mere \$2,000 million, it said.

Owing to the current vigour in the U.S. upturn, Mr. Carter was about to announce that the \$50 tax cut for most taxpayers will be cancelled. He would also give up plans for a \$2,000 million tax credit designed to encourage industrial investment, the paper said.

These decisions may be confirmed officially today, it added.

### Ex-commander of U.S. navy enlightens Israelis on war

TEL AVIV, April 14 (R). — A former commander of the United States navy told senior Israeli officers and officials yesterday they should not rely on guarantees from outside as a substitute for Israel's own strength.

"And until that is put across to the American public by many of us who are seeking to get the message across, I think that Israel would be very ill-advised indeed ever to take the commitment for others as a substitute for its own capabilities," he said.

Admiral Elmo Zumwalt, former U.S. Chief of Naval Operations, who is on a brief visit to Israel, addressed senior officials of the defence establishment on the balance of forces between the major powers and its effect on Israel.

Admiral Zumwalt told newsmen on his arrival on Tuesday he thought the Soviet Union was today capable of defeating the U.S. in a conventional weapons war.

Admiral Zumwalt said Israel should act in the light of the world's shifting military balance, the advice any American president was likely to get in a confrontation with the Soviet Union and the complacency of American public opinion.

He said that during the 1973 Middle East war, when Israeli forces surrounded the Egyptian Third Army, the Soviets had sent an ultimatum to Washington threatening to go in and relieve the Egyptians themselves unless the U.S. ordered Israel to release the army.

He said the U.S. had no viable alternative than to go on a strategic alert but inform Moscow simultaneously that it had carried out the ultimatum.

A religious ceremony and an exhibition will also be held during the commemorations of the great sea disaster of April 15, 1912 which caused the loss of 1,513 lives.

Readiness of the Israeli forces was critical to the maintenance of deterrence in the Middle East, he added.

There were 711 survivors, some 200 of whom are reportedly still alive, most of them well into their 80s. Thirty of them are members of the Titanic Society, which has approximately 1,500 members from several nations.

The American public, unlike the Israeli public, was much more complacent because it did not face the immediacy of any threat.

The society, whose aim is to perpetuate historical interest in the disaster, is planning to build a Titanic museum and is currently supervising the reprint of books and publications on the great Cunard transatlantic liner.

Called "Unsinkable" by its owners, the Titanic went down on its maiden voyage after it hit an iceberg in the middle of the night.

The collision occurred almost mid-way between Southampton, from where the Titanic had sailed a few days previously, and New York.

Its hull ripped open under water by the iceberg, the liner sank within a few hours while the ship's orchestra played "Nearer my God to Thee" victim of its own publicity, the ship did not carry enough lifeboats and two-thirds of its passengers and crew disappeared with her.

Most of the survivors were picked up by the liner Apathic. The Titanic Historical Society's interest extends beyond the liner. Mr. Kamudo said it has contacted French oceanographer Jacques Cousteau with a view to recovering the British torpedoes in the Aegean Sea in 1916.

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### India, Pakistan end trade talks

NEW DELHI, April 14 (AFP). — India and Pakistan today agreed to set up a senior officials' committee providing a mechanism to promote trade between their two countries.

Four days of trade talks between officials of the two countries which ended here today, and agreed minutes were signed by the two delegation leaders.

The Pakistani delegation was led by Commerce Secretary Ejaz Ahmed Nail and the Indian side by Foreign Trade Secretary Dr. P. C. Alexander.

India has agreed to buy more goods from Pakistan while the latter offered items like industrial alcohol, gypsum, rock salt and dried and fresh fruits.

Trade between India and Pakistan resumed two years ago after the break of nearly a decade. However, India's imports in the resumed trade were limited to cotton only and

even this item was not purchased last year due reportedly to a poor crop in Pakistan.

The Pakistani side agreed to provide priority to specific problems like congestion on rail and road routes, and improving customs formalities and procedures.

Mr. Nail told reporters that officials would meet soon to sort out these problems.

He said in reply to a question that there was absolutely no inhibition in his country about trade with India which was regarded like any other country.

Some Indian press reports had earlier suggested that a section of opinion in Pakistan was against any "over-dependence" on India for trade.

Mr. Nail said the new committee would meet at least once a year to tackle any problems impeding trade.

### Italy announces new austerity measures

ROME, April 14 (R). — The Italian government will raise electricity and transportation prices as further economic austerity measures aimed at producing a \$530 million loan from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), it was announced today.

But the government's letter said the wage indexation was boosting inflation and reducing company profits which, it said, threatened employment by reducing industrial potential for new investment.

In a letter of intent the government underlined the need for modifications in Italy's system of wage indexation -- by which wages rise every three months in line with increases in the cost-of-living index.

The IMF board is meeting in Washington on April 25 and is expected to give the final go-ahead then.

The Communist-dominated trade unions have rejected any drastic change in the index which they defend as a major achievement for the Italian working class.

It also pledged to refrain from new exchange controls, or from tightening existing exchange controls, for the duration of the requested IMF loan.

### Saccharine might not be banned in U.S. after all

WASHINGTON, April 14 (AFP). — Saccharine will not be banned in the United States after all, reliable sources said here yesterday.

They said that the artificial sweetener would be sold freely as an ordinary medicine without prescription.

This means that the Food and Drug Administration FDA, which controls food products and medicine, may have second thoughts about its decision to ban saccharine from July. The organisation has been inundated with protests.

Secretary of Health Joseph Califano has received about 800 letters a day asking him to

keep the market for saccharine open since the announcement on March 9 that laboratory tests had shown the substance caused cancer in animals, with the result that it had to be banned.

Under the compromise said to have been adopted by the FDA, manufacturers would be forbidden to sweeten food products or drinks with saccharine. But its sale would be authorised in chemists' shops and drugstores, perhaps with such a warning as "this substance may cause cancer."

An FDA spokesman said that details concerning the problem may be announced soon.

### £ holders offered U.K. Treasury bonds

LONDON, April 14 (AFP). — The Bank of England today closed the bond subscriptions for consolidating the sterling balances, and official sources said the conversion had gone well.

generally expected to be made known tomorrow, but already official sources indicated that the issue has proved satisfactory.

The score of countries holding the £2,200 million of sterling balances were offered medium-term Treasury bonds in dollars, marks, Swiss francs and Yen. The bonds are for periods of between five and 10 years.

The interest rates carried by the bonds are relatively attractive at the moment. Subscribers have already made gains through the rise in the yen, mark and Swiss franc.

Most of the balances were held by seven countries, the majority Middle East oil-producing countries like Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Abu Dhabi.

Even so, it is expected that some three-quarters of the converted sum will be in dollars. Rationing of bonds in the other three currencies will probably be necessary.

Results of the operation, which began 10 days ago, were

The consolidation of the sterling balances will not be 100 per cent, as most holders will keep some sterling.

## WALL STREET REPORT

Trading was brisk on the New York stock exchange Thursday, where the industrial average jumped a surprising eight points.

At the close, the industrial average shows at 947.00, a gain of 8.82 points: Transp at 234.17, a gain of 3.31; utilities at 108.93, a gain of 0.74. A total of 30,490,000 shares changed hands.

## LONDON MARKET REPORT

The market Thursday closed quietly mixed and at 15:00 the F.T. index was up one point at 418.5.

The miners' intention to reject further wage curbs caused equities to come off the top but government bonds were largely unaffected by this or the money supply figures, dealers said.

Government bonds were mixed with falls of 3/8 among longer maturities while short dates firmed up to 1/2. Gold shares ended little changed in small turnover. Dollar stocks and Canadians were mixed.

The oil sector was fairly active with B.P. closing 14p up on speculation that the U.S. government will allow Alaskan oil sales at market prices.

Price of gold closed in London Thursday at \$151.5/oz.

APOLOGY -- Wednesday's gold price should have read \$152.25/oz., and not \$126.25/oz., as stated.

## ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

- \* GENEVA, April 14 (R). — Eastern Europe's debts to the West -- which have caused some concern among bankers -- could have climbed to about \$35 billion at the end of last year, a United Nations report said today. Several estimates made in Europe in the past few months have put the figure as high as \$40 billion. A report on Eastern Europe, part of an economic survey by the U.N. Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), estimated today that \$35 billion was the accumulated net debt of the Soviet Union and its allies.
- \* TEHRAN, April 14 (R). — Iran's oil production during March averaged 6,275,105 barrels a day, or 227,706 barrels more than in February, according to figures released by the state-owned National Iranian Oil Company. March output was 1,216,599 barrels higher than in January, when production slumped because of a 10 per cent price increase.
- \* MOSCOW, April 14 (R). — Afghanistan and the Soviet Union today signed an economic cooperation agreement which apparently provides for continued Soviet aid to Kabul. Tass news agency, reporting on the ceremony, gave no details of the agreement but said that Kremlin economic aid expert Semyon Skachkov and Afghanistan's Planning Minister Ali Ahmed Khurram had signed the document. Afghan President Sardar Mohammad Daoud yesterday completed two days of talks with Soviet leaders, which clearly centred on ways of expanding aid from Moscow to Kabul.
- \* AMMAN, April 14 (R). — Saudi Arabia has agreed to the employment of Indonesians on development and construction projects in the Kingdom, according to an Indonesian minister quoted by Riyadh Radio today. Lt-Gen. Mohammad Jusuf, Minister of Industry, also told the radio his talks in the Saudi capital had covered the possibility of joint industrial projects between the two countries. Saudi Arabia, which has complained about the high prices charged by Western concerns, is turning to Asian countries, especially South Korea, Pakistan, India and Taiwan for development projects.

## WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

- \* ABU DHABI, April 14 (R). — Moslem religious courts, which can impose such Quranic punishments as mutilation and stoning, to death, have been given powers here to try foreigners, including non-Moslems. Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates, has ordered the Justice Ministry to send all cases of murder, rape and theft to the Sharia (Moslem religious) courts instead of to civil courts. The change was reported by local newspapers and confirmed today by Sheikh Ahmad Abdul Aziz Al Mubarak, head of the religious courts, who said the law would not differentiate between Moslems and non-Moslems.
- \* NEW DELHI, April 14 (R). — Former Indian Foreign Minister Swaran Singh will take over today as interim president of the Congress Party, which is now holding an inquest into its shattering defeat in last month's general election. A party spokesman said Mr. Singh will preside over party affairs until a new president is elected by the All India Congress Committee, which will probably meet in mid-May. Outgoing party President Dev Kant Barooah said yesterday he was quitting because he felt responsible for the election defeat, the first suffered by the party since Indian independence 30 years ago.
- \* GENEVA, April 14 (AFP). — Representatives of more than 100 governments convened here today to amend international law concerning war. They will attempt in particular to draft regulations protecting civilians and prisoners of war. The conference will last until June 10. Previous sessions of the conference have already adopted various regulations in the last three years. Problems remaining to be settled include the treatment of captured mercenaries and civilian resistance fighters, whether to forbid certain weapons such as "napalm" (jellied gasoline) and procedures for setting up international commissions to investigate war crimes. Deep differences of opinion exist between Western Communist and developing countries. The conflict in Zaire appears to be modifying the positions of some governments.

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